

Garden State Watercolor Society Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 2

July 1, 2004

Garden State Watercolor Society Newsletter

Diana Wilkoc Patton 497 Stony Brook Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Message from the President



I have been thinking a lot about time lately, how quickly it passes, and also the number thirty-five. It is an honor to be the President of the Garden State Watercolor Society, particularly now in our thirty-fifth anniversary year. Thirty five years ago, when Dagmar Tribble had a vision of promoting New Jersey watercolorists and brought her vision to fruition by forming this wonderful organization to benefit artists, I was also beginning a new experience of becoming a first time mother to my new daughter, Erika. In spite of my love for art, becoming a future President of a watercolor organization certainly never entered my mind. Now, thirty-five years later, my daughter will soon be a new mother herself, which means, I shall be beginning another new experience as a first time grandmother. How can this be? I can remember clearly the day she was born, as if it were yesterday. Can I possibly be thirty-five years older? Well, my physical body often confirms this for me every morning, while my mental outlook works overtime trying to compensate, and fortunately on most days, usually wins, in spite of life changes and occurrences.

I lost my sister and best friend Joan very suddenly this past January 25, 2004 and since then, my life hasn't been quite the same. My desire to retreat wasn't an option, with the numerous things that had to be dealt with, along with day to day activities, working and the ongoing GSWs responsibilities, which never seem to end. In retrospect, I suppose that being forced to busy myself and to continue on helped me feel somewhat normal through my underlying grief. But what really helped was the support that I received from the GSWS Board, who aside from their understanding, kind words and lovely notes, also this year donated the Joan Wyle Memorial Award, in honor of my sister, which will be presented at the Thirty-fifth Annual Juried Exhibition. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of them. I would also like to extend a very special thanks to Carole Bleistein, First Vice President, who has always been and continues to be invaluable in her assistance to me.

Speaking of our Thirty-Fifth Annual Juried Exhibition, you probably have received your prospectus by now. Please read it carefully. This is an exciting year for GSWS and we have an equally exciting and innovative show planned in honor of our thirty-fifth anniversary from August 22 through September 26, 2004 at Montgomery Center for the Arts at the 1860 House. Don't miss "Pushing the Envelope".

continued on page 2

Your Officers

President
First Vice-President
2nd Vice-President
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary

Membership Chair
Historian
Newsletter
Data Base Administrator
Publicity
Accountant
Hospitality
Fall Workshop Chair
Website Coordinator
Member at Large
Honorary Members

Website

Past Presidents

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barbara March	856/596-7747
Carole Bleistein	609/882-1168
Jennifer Cadoff	609/497-0635
Connie Gray	908/359-4338
Lucy Graves McVicker	609/924-2660
Livy Glaubitz	609/737-3637

STANDING COMMITTEES

Carolyn Peterson	856/424-1627
Marge Chavooshian	609/695-8645
Diana Wilkoc Patton	908/722-0562
Jack Hand	732/596-0383
Annette Novoa	908/719-4785
Edward Russell, CPA	908/647-1060
Karen Bannister	609/466-1530
Joan McKinney	908/722-5140
Robyn Rosenbaum	609/259-0962
Marthe Tribble McKinnon	609/921-3732
Margo Froehlich	
Tom Malloy	
Charles and Dorothy Plohn, Jr.	
Jack Scott	
James Warga	

www.geocities.com/gardenstatewatercolorsociety

Dagmar Tribble, Founder 1970-1989; Mary LaForge 1990-1994;
Elizabeth Lombardi 1995-1996; Rae Hendershott 1997-1998;
Elizabeth Roedell 1999-2000; Deborah Paglione 2001-2002.

Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

Money

**5%
BACK**

It's that simple.

Placing an order with American Frame not only accents your artwork, it also earns money for Garden State Watercolor Society.

Each quarter, American Frame sends us a check for 5% of the total amount our members purchase from them. Earn money for us while framing your latest masterpiece. Get your catalog today...

call now 1 800 537 0944 Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am-6 pm
www.americanframe.com *out our on-line specials

Message from the President *continued*

The GSWS Eighth Annual Associate Exhibition will be held at the Triangle Art Center Gallery from October 16 through November 20, 2004, with receiving of artwork on October 9. Prospectuses will be mailed out late August.

I trust that those of you who renewed your membership dues in time to be included in our Membership Roster, were as pleased as we were to present our beautiful 2004 anniversary edition, featuring the artwork of Dagmar Tribble. I would like to thank Marthe Tribble McKinnon for gathering some of her mother's works for us to select and photograph. Also thanks to our new Membership Chairperson, Carolyn Peterson, who has been doing an outstanding job!

I hope that most of you have taken the time to view our Members' Exhibit at Capital Health at Mercer. Many thanks to Carole Bleistein and Jennifer Cadoff, who chaired the exhibit with me. Please see the inside article. Also, please don't miss a wonderful opportunity to paint fabulous florals with Janet Walsh,

AWS at our Fall Workshop. Notices will be forthcoming and inquires may be made to Joan McKinney, Workshop Chair, (908) 722-5140.

GSWS needs your help! We have a wonderful and dedicated Board, but we do not have enough members willing to take on positions of leadership. This means not only volunteering for one day, but taking on the responsibility of chairing our standing committees on up to becoming involved in the presidency tract. This is the time for you to give something back to your organization and to be deeply rewarded in the process. I welcome your inquires and would be glad to discuss various options with you. Please call me at (856) 596-7747 or E-mail BJM1001@aol.com.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer and I shall look forward to seeing you at our future events.

Barbara March, President

MERCER COUNTY ARTS SHOWCASE



*Left to right: Carolle Bleistein, 1st vice, pres.,
Barbara March, president & Carolyn Peterson, Membership.*

On May 22, 2004, from 11 am until 5 pm, the Mercer County Arts Showcase was held at Grounds for Sculpture. Co-sponsored by Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission and Grounds for Sculpture, and assisted by a grant from the Delaware River

Region Tourism Council, the Showcase was conceived as a way to develop exciting new opportunities for arts, cultural, and historical organizations in Mercer County by spotlighting their individual efforts to create awareness of programs, services, and educational outreach opportunities to local and non-local residents. The opportunity was there to network with each other as well as reach members of the public.

President Barbara March, First Vice-president Carolle Bleistein, and Membership Chairwoman Carolyn Peterson were there to acquaint all with our own Garden State Watercolor Society. In the wonderful surroundings of Grounds for Sculpture, with all its fascinating vignettes and sculpture groupings, Barbara, Carol, and Carolyn spoke with interested folks, answering queries, and otherwise promoting GSWS. The Mercer County Arts Showcase thus hoped to increase the visibility of the County of Mercer, and promote cultural tourism within the tri-state area.

AMONG THE MANY ART WEB-SITES

You have probably visited different art websites. I thought I might just add a few. You have probably gone to www.cheapjoes.com and www.dickblick.com. You may have visited GSWS Associate Member Russ Johnson's www.newamgallery.com and our own www.geocities.com/gardenstatewatercolorsociety/, but have you gone to www.danielsmith.com/watercolors.htm? You might want to get suggestions from some of their articles or you might be tempted to purchase some interesting new colors like Minnesota Pipestone, Quinacridone gold, or juicy and gorgeous Natural Sleeping Beauty Turquoise Genuine. Their turquoise, the highest grade "is found closest to the earth's surface, where environmental factors have enhanced the structure to gemstone quality and deepened the tonal richness to a remarkable blue." I like their really yummy colors as well

as their names. You will also find Internet Specials at that website as well.

Have you ever visited www.currys.com/index.asp? They have an excellent "Artists Tips" Newsletter. The recent issue had articles on Encaustic Painting by Chris Carrido, Creating Limited Edition Prints by the Giclee Method, by Peter Dulis, and Stretching Watercolor Paper by Curry's. The articles come replete with accompanying color photos, which are most helpful. This art supplies company has been in business since 1911 and they too have online specials.

Actually you'll find online specials at many of our favorite art supply distributors, but the two mentioned above have some great articles as well. Explore when you can make some time!

FAB FLORAL WORKSHOP COMING SOON!

By now you all have received the announcement and reservation form for the truly fabulous Floral Workshop to be given by Janet Walsh, AWS. Joan McKinney, our Workshop Chairwoman, has done it again—and brought to us a most noted artist and talented teacher in Janet Walsh, AWS. The Floral Workshop will run for five days, Monday—Friday, October 11-15 from 9—3 pm at the 1860 House, Montgomery Cultural Center, 124 Montgomery Road, in Skillman, NJ. The cost is \$350 for the five days. Classes begin each day at 9 am with lectures, painting demonstrations, and an outline of daily objectives.

Janet Walsh returned to live in Pennsylvania after many years in Manhattan and Long Island. Ms. Walsh studied at the School of Visual Arts and the Art Students League in Manhattan. Janet

teaches workshops both in the United States and overseas. She also juries and judges many regional and national art shows. Janet is the author of *WATERCOLOR MADE EASY*, published by Watson-Guptil, which has been reprinted many times. She developed a four part instructional video series based on this book.

Classes in this GSWS-sponsored workshop will be limited to twenty people. Reservations will be accepted in postmark order. Telephone reservations will not be accepted. The deadline for the \$100 deposit is August 1st. Checks should be made payable to the Garden State Watercolor Society and mailed to Joan McKinney, 1095 West Brook Road, Bridgewater, NJ, 08807. Directions and a material list will be sent upon payment of balance.

Members' Exhibit 2004 - Capital Elegance

By Barbara March

The Garden State Watercolor Society presented its Members' Exhibit at Capital Health System at Mercer from June 7, through July 6, 2004, displaying an outstanding variety of subject matter and diverse techniques in watermedia. We thank Nancy Schlitter, Director of Volunteer Services, and Capital Health, who graciously continues to host our fine art exhibitions.

Our Jurors of Awards this year were Erika Johanna Neidhardt and Shelly Picker, both prominent and accomplished watercolor artists from Pennsylvania. We gratefully thank our Award Sponsors for their donations, which totaled over \$1,200.

The Opening Reception was held on Saturday June 19, 2004. An elegant ensemble of food and drink was painstakingly prepared and tastefully arranged by Karen Bannister, Hospitality Chair, who was assisted by Alice Warshaw. We thank Karen and Alice for their artful and enjoyable presentation. Barbara March, President and Carole Bleistein, First Vice President, conducted the awards presentation.

The TRENTON TIMES featured the exhibition in the June 8, 2004 edition of "Good Times" magazine. The article titled "High Water Marks" was written by Janet Purcell, who eloquently described in detail several of the paintings in the show. Artist's works featured and

photographed in the article included Sandy Mezinis (cover photo), Barbara March, Angela Barbalace, Joanne Augustine and Carole Bleistein.

A tremendous amount of work goes into the preparation of our shows and a great deal of thanks is in order to our Board of Directors and Standing Committee Chairpersons. Many thanks to Carole Bleistein, Jennifer Cadoff, Connie Gray, Lucy McVicker, Livy Glaubitz, Carolyn Peterson, Marge Chavooshian, Diana Patton, Jack Hand, Annette Novoa, Joan McKinney, Robyn Rosenbaum, Joe Knuth, Karen Bannister and Alice Warshaw.



Group winners Left to right: Sandy Mezinis, Barbara March, Lorraine Williams, Doris Terris, Beverly Nickel, Joanne Augustine, Ed Baumlín, Marge Chavooshian, Walter Bill standing with 1st VP Carole Bleistein.



Barbara March received Frames & Framers Award.



Ed Baumlín received Graphic Dimensions Award.



Sandy Mezinis received Daier-Rowney Award.

Members' Exhibit 2004 *continued*

We look forward to returning next year to Capital Health System at Mercer for an equally elegant Members' Exhibit 2005, scheduled for May 16 through June 24,

2005. Mark the date! This is an opportunity and benefit for our Full members, from GSWS not to be missed!

The Garden State Watercolor Society would like to congratulate the following award winners:

GSWS Cash Award \$300	Betty Stroppel
Daler-Rowney Award, \$200 Gift Certificate	Sandy Mezinis
Daler-Rowney Award, \$200 Gift Certificate	Marge Chavooshian
Da Vinci Paint Co., Inc. Award, \$150 Gift Certificate	James Toogood
Winsor & Newton Award, \$125 Watercolor Box	Chuck McVicker
Frames & Framers Award, \$100 Gift Certificate	Barbara March
M.Graham & Company Award, \$100 Watercolor Box	Walter Bill
Triangle Art Center Award, \$100 Gift Certificate	Joanne Augustine
Jerry's Artarama Award, \$50 Gift Certificate	Doris Terris
Graphic Dimensions Award, Picture Frames (\$50)	Edward Baumlin
Stu-Art Supplies Award, \$50 Gift Certificate	Lorraine Williams
Dick Blick Art Materials Award, \$25 Gift Certificate	Beverly Nickel



Doris Terris received Jerry's Artarama Award.



Joanne Augustine received Triangle Art Center Award.



Marge Chavooshian received Daler-Rowney Award.



Walter Bill received M. Graham & Co. Award.

Members' Exhibit 2004 *continued*



Left to right: Carole Bleistein, Barbara March, Lucy McVicker accepting for Charles McVicker, the Winsor & Newton Award.



Left to right: Carole Bleistein, 1st VP, Barbara March, President, Nancy Schlitter, Director of Volunteer Services and Mary Helen Wiley, Exhibitions Capital Health System.



Left to right: Carole Bleistein, Barbara March, Beverly Nickel received Dick Blick Award.



Left to right: Carole Bleistein, Barbara March, Lorraine Williams received STU-ART Supplies Award.

Membership News

Summertime! How we love it! Painting outside and keeping warm in the process. Everything blooming! Not only do we have the wonderful flowers and trees, water and animals, we have the music of the waters, be it river or ocean, birdsong and bee-buzz, and fragrances as well. Our painting in the summer becomes a total sensory sensation (add tea and cookies, wine and cheese, a sandwich and soda, and we include taste in this experience). When you do take a break, however, there's lots of news from your artist friends. Here's some of it!

Associate **LINDA ARNOLD** was accepted into the Open Juried Show sponsored by the Bernardsville Library and also had a one-woman exhibit at the Pingry School from May 8th to June 8th. Linda's work "Farmhouse in Winter" was made into a giclée print and sold to raise funds for the Kennedy-Martin Farmstead. The original of the work is hanging in the Bernards Township Town Hall.

ED BAUMLIN won an Award of Excellence in the NJWCS Associates' Show at the Children's Hospital, Mountainside. Ed was accepted into the following juried shows; SAA Members'

show at the Somerset Art Association, Coryell Gallery in Lambertville, NJ-AAPL Open Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, Artsbridge Regional Prallsville Mill in Stockton, Ocean Artist Guild State Show in Toms River, NJ-AAPL Noyes Museum in Oceanville, and the Perkins Art Center in Moorestown. Ed was invited to participate in Art Extraordinaire, an art show & sale to benefit the Children's Museum at Studio 7 Art Gallery in Bernardsville, NJ, also the 5th Annual Art Exhibition & Auction at Sterling Farm, Pittstown, NJ, to benefit the Therapeutic Riding Program for handicapped children.

continued on page 7

Membership News *continued*

Associate **GAY BILlich** was awarded "Professional" membership in the National Association of Women Artists, in Manhattan, NY and also a two-person show at the Louisa Melrose Gallery in Frenchtown from June 1st through July 15th, 2004.

CAROLE BLEISTEIN had a solo exhibit of watercolor paintings at Medford Leas Art Gallery in Medford, New Jersey from June 1 through June 30, 2004. The exhibition committee offered her the show based upon a painting which they saw in the 2003 GSWS Members' Exhibit.

RITA BODNER won the Jack Richeson Award for First Place in the Palm Beach Watercolor Society 21st Anniversary Open Juried Show at the Coral Springs Museum, Coral Springs, Florida, in March.

MARGE CHAVOOSHIAN has received several awards including one from the Coryell Gallery in Lambertville in January, and in February the Kent Art Association Award at the Open Juried Show at the Ridgewood Art Institute as well as Honorable Mention at the Open Juried Show of the NJ-AAPL at the Paper Mill Playhouse. Marge also won Honorable Mention at the juried open state show NJ-AAPL at the Noyes Museum, as well as the Daler-Rowney Award in GSWS Full Members' Show and the Brush & Pen Award in the current National Open Juried Show at the Salmagundi Club in New York City. Marge will be holding workshops July 11 to 16 and also September 17-19 at the Chalfonte Hotel, 301 Howard Street in Cape May, New Jersey (08208). You may contact the hotel at 609-884-8409 to be a part of this creative workshop in a lovely environment.

JUDI GILDEN received a Judge's Award at the Freehold Art Society Open Show for "Harvest Dance", at the Freehold Public Library, and exhibited at the Pen & Brush, Inc. Show "The Evolution of the Artist: Then and Now" in New York City. She received the Ann Waldron Award at the NJ-AAPL Open State Juried Exhibition at the Fine Arts Gallery, Ocean County College in Toms River, the Third Place Watercolor at the Freehold Art Society Annual Members' Exhibit at Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan, and had a painting accepted in the Ocean County Artists Guild Annual Members' Exhibit in Island Heights.

Judi took part in a fundraiser in which she painted a ceramic mask which was co-signed by Diane Sawyer (Diane chose it) and it was sold at auction to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity.

Judi exhibited and demonstrated at the Monmouth Festival of the Arts 2004, in Tinton Falls, received Third Place Watercolor at the Monmouth Arts Gallery Golden Anniversary Art Show in West Long Branch, and had a painting accepted at the NJ-AAPL Spring Open State Juried Exhibition 2004 at the Noyes Museum of Art in Oceanville. She received Second Place Watercolor at the Monmouth Art Gallery Ruth Crown Memorial Art Show in Little Silver and exhibited at the NAWA (Nat'l Association of Women Artists) Exhibit in NYC. Judi served as Juror for the Ocean County Senior Art Exhibit, Ocean County College Fine Arts Center. Her work was also accepted into the NJ-AAPL Open State Juried Exhibition 2004—Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts in Milville.

BEVERLY GOLEMBESKI was awarded the First Prize in Aquamedia in the 2004 Associate Member Exhibition of the Audubon Artists Association held at the Queen County Council on the Arts building in Oak Ridge, Forest Park, Woodhaven, NY, held March 15th to April 3rd, was accepted into the SIDE by SIDE membership show of the Philadelphia Water Color and National Watercolor Societies held at the National Watercolor Society's Building in San Pedro, California, from May 1st to July 2nd, and was accepted in the 24th Edition of the Marquis WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN WOMEN. Beverly received a Judges Choice Award in the Ocean County Artists' Guild's State Show held in Islands Heights, NJ at the OCAG and had a Solo Exhibit at the Phoenix Rising Gallery on Central Ave in Seaside Park, NJ, from May 7th to June 13th and at the WaterMark Gallery in Tuckerton, NJ, June 25th to July 25th.

LIVY GLAUBITZ had a one-woman show sponsored by the University Medical Center at Princeton Auxiliary in the Medical Center Dining Room in Princeton May 21st—July 14th. Her opening reception was Friday, May 21st.

ELSA HERRMANN had a one-woman exhibit for the month of February at the Point Pleasant Beach Library. She also showed "Small Works" at the Ocean

Grove Main Avenue Galleria in Ocean Grove, New Jersey.

ROBERT HEYER conducted watercolor workshops for the Morris County Art Association May 6th and 27th and the Somerset Art Association May 20th and July 7th. He also conducted a workshop on "Watercolor Vignettes" at Jane Law's Long Beach Island Art Studio & Gallery on July 16th. This specialized approach to composition and technique energizes your paintings with excitement and sparkle.

BARBARA MARCH was awarded Second Place in the Fine Arts Division at the Burlington County Art League Robert Ransley Juried Art Show, where she also sold her winning piece. She was also juried into Cherry Hill Art Blooms Exhibit. She participated in the Garden State Watercolor Society Members' Exhibit 2004 at Capital Health System at Mercer and received the Frames & Framers Award. Barbara has been teaching ongoing watercolor classes this past year at the West Windsor Senior Center and will continue when classes resume in the fall. She also conducted experimental watercolor classes for the Bloomfield Art League.

JOAN MCKINNEY was awarded Third Place, Professional, in the 10th Annual Art Exhibit of Bridgewater Township. Joan also won an Award of Merit at the juried NJ-AAPL Exhibit at the Noyes Museum in March.

CHARLES MCVICKER was awards and selection juror for the Perkins Annual Watercolor exhibit this spring in Moorestown, NJ. He was also the Awards Juror at the New Jersey American Artists Professional League 2004 exhibit at the Noyes Museum, and was on the Selection Jury for the 50th Anniversary Annual National Society of Painters in Casein and Acrylic at the Banana Factory in Bethlehem, PA.

LUCY GRAVES MCVICKER'S artwork was accepted into this year's "Side by Side" exhibit in Glendale, California - a juried show consisting of art by members of The National Watercolor Society and the Philadelphia Watercolor Club.

DEBORAH PAGLIONE had her paintings of the Princeton's Governor's mansions Morven and Drumthwacket recently printed and published in the

Membership News *continued*

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NEW JERSEY by Rutgers University Press. The publication is currently selling in the bookstores. Deborah's paintings were also featured in the Junior League of Princeton's "Designer Showhouse".

DIANA PATTON was in the open juried show of the NJ-AAPL at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn and the Open Juried Show sponsored by the Bernardsville Library. She received Honorable Mention Professional in the Bridgewater Township Show, as well as in the Lamington Invitational Show. She exhibited in the Full Members' NJWCS Show at the Clifton Arts Center. Diana was also one of three artists exhibiting and demonstrating at the Avalon and she also demonstrated at Schreier-Plough with other artists (including **DEBBIE TINTLE**) for a fund-raiser for the Arts Council of the Morris Area.

Associate **CAROL STAUB** was awarded "Professional" membership into the National Association of Women Artists in Manhattan, NY, and also "Professional" membership into the "Women in the Visual Arts" in Delray Beach, in Florida. Carol received a Third Place Award in the Boca Raton Museum of Art-Artists Guild—February 2004 Images Show, the First Place in the A.E. Bean Backus Museum Annual 4-County Juried Exhibition in April 2004, and was also awarded a two-person show at the Louisa Melrose Gallery in Frenchtown, New Jersey, which took place June 1st through July 15th, 2004. Carol was also

juried into the "International Impressions Exhibit" at the Cornell Museum June 3rd, 2004 through September 13th in Delray Beach, Florida and into the 2004 Artist Guild Biennial Exhibition at the Boca Raton Museum of Art June 16th through August 29th in Boca Raton. Carol was awarded a 4-person Exhibit at the A.E. Bean Backus Museum for May, 2005, in Fort Pierce, Florida.

DORIS TERRIS, PWS, won a Best in Show for an acrylic painting at the Lamington (NJ) Presbyterian Invitational Art Show May 2004. This spring she had two paintings accepted into the NJ chapter AAPL (American Artist Professional League) Show at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn, NJ. Doris had paintings in the Garden State Watercolor Exhibit, (winning the Jerry's Artarama Award), the Pennsylvania Watercolor, and the Hunterdon Watercolor Societies members' shows. She has also been teaching watercolor at the Somerset Art Association in Bedminster and watercolor, pastel, acrylic, and oil at the Senior Center of Hunterdon County.

DEBBIE TINTLE was awarded First Place in Watercolor at the juried Hudson Valley Art Association National Exhibition at the Newington-Cropsey Foundation Gallery Studio in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. Debbie also had work in the juried National Exhibition of the Missouri Watercolor Society in Oxford, Missouri. She was also juried into Full Membership into this organization.

Associate **THOMAS C. WILCZEWSKI** had his watercolor "Sopher's Hole, BVI" chosen by the Christopher Reeve Foundation to be published in their 2005 calendar. Approximately 3,000,000 calendars are distributed throughout the USA to raise funds for the foundation. Tom was awarded Second Place for "Autumn Reflections" in the "Golden Anniversary Art Show" sponsored by the Monmouth Arts Gallery, held at the West Long Branch Library. He also exhibited several watercolor paintings (one of three artists chosen) at the "2004 Governor's Conference on Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities" at the Ramada Inn National Conference Center in East Windsor, NJ, May 19th. And on May 20th Tom had on exhibition two watercolors at the Summit Playhouse Gala Performance of DINNER WITH FRIENDS. This event benefited the VSA Arts of New Jersey which sponsors programs for the disabled through art events.

And so we come to the end of "Volume 14, Number 2" of the Garden State Watercolor Society NEWSLETTER. Since our next deadline isn't until DECEMBER 15TH, you have lots of time to mail in your news! I'll keep it all in a big envelope which should be filled with lots of good news by then. For now, take advantage of each warm, sunny day and have a paintingful time.

PAINT- OUT AT PRINCETON A PLEASURE

Excerpts from Sandra Tasca on the Paint-Out of last fall

"Dear Artists,

Thanks to you, the first Paint-Out at Princeton Academy was a great success. Over forty adult artists and twenty-four student artists painted, sketched and basked in a spectacular summer-like day. Not only was the weather perfect, but we all enjoyed the gorgeous fall colors, the Academy's serene atmosphere and the great company of fellow artists and interested onlookers. At the closing reception, about 20 paintings were sold!

To top off a truly memorable event, the Paint-Out was featured the very next day on the front page of The Trenton

Times! This was no small matter given that our coverage was "above the fold", included a full-color image and terrific write-up, and was published on the last remaining Sunday before an election! In addition, the Paint-Out was subsequently featured in a lovely front page article of The Princeton Packet. The Trenton Times used a photo of the Paint Out for the cover of its annual calendar. We were amazed that a one-day event could bring such terrific publicity to plein air painting and local painters.

The date for the second annual Paint Out at Princeton Academy is Saturday, October 23, 2004. Of course, we will

give away a "People's Choice Award" of \$100 at the closing reception and art sale. This year the closing reception and art sale will take place in the lower floor of the Manor House. It will utilize several rooms so that we can all take a really good look at one another's work. The art sale will be a silent auction this year because we are hoping that the auction format will encourage community members and artists alike to linger and mingle. The sale will begin at 4:30pm and will close with the presentation of the People's Choice Award at about 6:00pm."

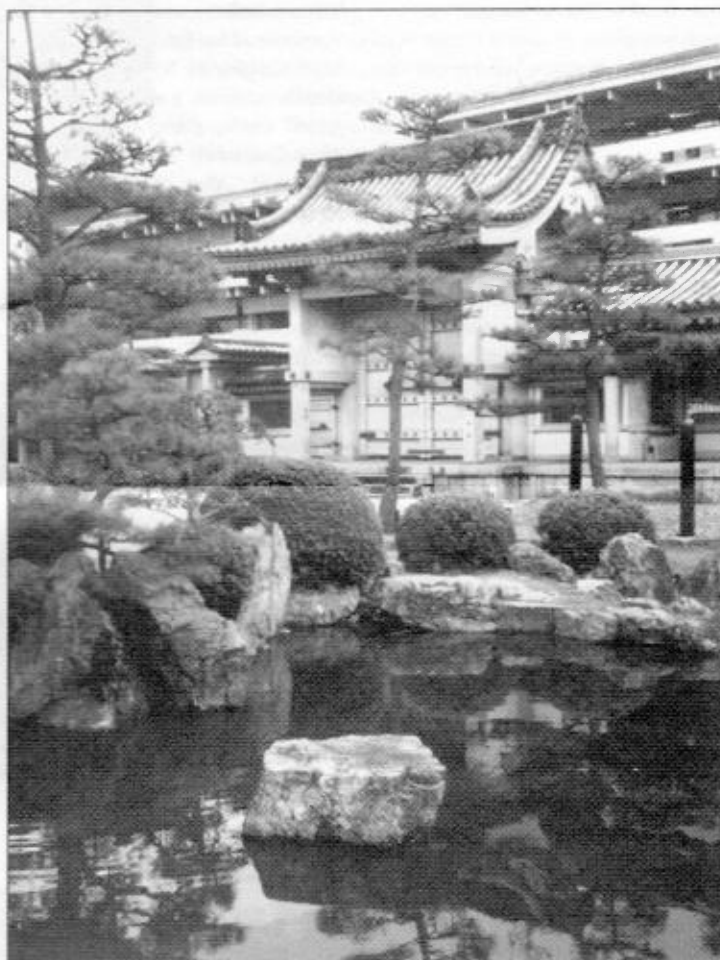
JAPAN—AN ARTFUL EXPERIENCE

by Diana Wilkoc Patton

Some of you may remember my article in January 2004 NEWSLETTER on special experiences I had in Japan last September. These mainly had to do with the warmth and friendliness of the Japanese people and the way in which expressing beauty is an everyday occurrence with them for example in the presentation of food, ordinary package wrapping, museum tickets with pictures, etcetera. Today I will talk about some of the more formal ways art and beauty play an enormous part in their lives, by speaking briefly about some of the temples, shrines, and museums my husband and I visited.

One of our early excursions was out into the mountainous country northeast of Mito (where we were based) and Tokyo, to the lovely small city of Nikko, where the main attraction (In addition to gorgeous mountain scenery with trees and mist, waterfalls, and rivers EXACTLY as you've seen them in Japanese ink paintings) was the Toshogu Shrine. Ieyasu Tokugawa is the deity venerated in the Toshogu Shrine at Nikko. Born in 1542 A.D., which was a time of great inner turmoil and civil wars in Japan, Ieyasu managed to unify the country, thereby making a great and lasting contribution for peace and culture to

continued on page 10



Nijo Castle (Kyoto) and garden.

SECOND ANNUAL PAINT-OUT AT PRINCETON ACADEMY

GSWS members are invited to participate in the Second Annual Paint Out at Princeton Academy on **Saturday, Oct. 23rd**. The Academy's old stone buildings and carefully tended grounds are nestled in the wooded hills above Princeton, NJ, and offer one of the most serene and picturesque painting locations in the area. Artists who participated in the inaugural 2003 event have been eagerly awaiting the date for this year's paint-out, and this is one invitation you shouldn't turn down.

Painters can arrive at the Princeton Academy campus as early as 6:00 a.m. and work until 4:00 p.m. Then from 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. artists can participate in a silent auction that provides friends of the Academy with an opportunity to

purchase the day's output. Participating artists are treated to breakfast snacks in the morning, burgers at lunchtime, and wine and cheese at the silent auction. There is ample free parking on campus and clean rest rooms for all painters.

There is no fee for the event, and Princeton Academy does not charge a commission on sales. Last year many artists did, however, contribute all or a portion of their sales proceeds to the school, and these tax-deductible contributions were naturally most welcome.

If you decide to attend, you should plan to bring a display easel, if you have one, since the Academy does not have enough

easels to accommodate all of the work for the evening's silent auction. Paintings can also be displayed on tables throughout the auction.

This promises to be one of the top art events of 2004, and you should add your name to the list as soon as possible. You can indicate your interest by emailing event coordinator Sandra Tasca at sandra@sandrataasca.com. If you don't have access to email, you can call 609-333-9411.

Princeton Academy is located at 101 Drake's Corner Road, which is off the Great Road in Princeton, NJ. The campus is only about a 5-minute drive from Princeton University.

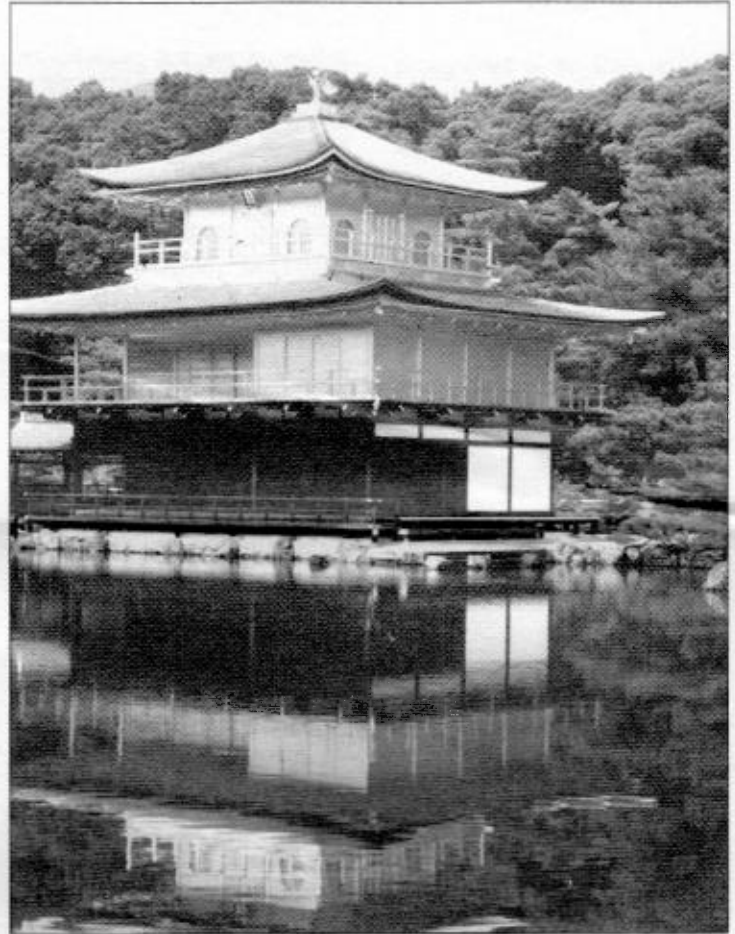
JAPAN—AN ARTFUL EXPERIENCE *continued*

Japan. After Ieyasu died in 1616, his son Hidetada built this amazing shrine for the veneration of his father. This is really a huge complex of buildings—shrines, temples, a pagoda, a small museum, the sacred stable, gates, and more, all situated on a hilly incline, and all of it fascinating. After a whole day of exploration, I still had not taken it all in.

The first things you notice are the complexity of the buildings themselves, the layers upon layers of ornamentation, and the incredible rich and vibrant colors, as well as all the gilding. I knew little about the religions in Japan and little about the history and the famous emperors, so mainly I was seeing things from a purely artist's viewpoint. You may be familiar with Betty Edwards' book *DRAWING ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BRAIN* in which she says you can draw (or paint) better if you don't label something a horse or an ornate gingerbread house; you look and paint from angles and lines, dark and light, and color. In a similar manner I was looking at form more than content, and I was totally fascinated. Every square inch of the buildings seem to be decorated, and each little sculpture or architectural carving seemed a gem. The rich reds and burnt siennas, the brilliant clear turquoises and intense cobalt blues, the deep sea greens, the shining golds, on all sorts of figures, flowers, and animals, or creatures, beguile the eye.

Yes, I did buy the guidebooks (most of them small works of art in themselves) and I learned some of the content, some of the meaning of the animals or birds, etc. and so the shrine complex meant even more to me. For example, on the façade of the Sacred Stable are wooden carvings, richly colored, and among them are the famous "Three Monkeys", created back in the early 1600s, the famous "See no evil, say no evil, hear no evil monkeys." Wow! So this is where they started! In Japan! Centuries ago. Inside the stable the sacred horse is actually a lovely white stallion given by New Zealand.

I spent quite a lot of time in the inner part of the shrine (as inner as I could go; in almost all shrines and temples there is a real inner sanctum which you can see, but you can't enter. The priests do, a sometimes you REALLY want to look at the artwork close up, but you can't).



The Golden Pavilion (Kyoto).

Carvings, intricate and colorful, hold your attention. I watched and listened to the people, all of them Japanese, as they would clap loudly, once, to tell the deity that they were there and ready to pray or talk to him/her. I walked, in my socks (well aware of my size elevens left in one of the cubicles outside the shrine), on glimmering deep red lacquered floors, and I looked up at a dragon ceiling. Many dragons—a feeling of communality, and yet the more one looks, the more one sees differences in the dragons, or creatures. It was all fascinating, lively, colorful, beautiful. I've not space to speak of the impressive torii (gates), or the walkways, or the fabled five-storied pagoda. I do have to mention that on bushes and trees are left many small pieces of paper, prayers, I think, and also Omikuji, paper fortunes of Omikuji which are often left behind on trees.

I should also mention that one of the two stations in Nikko, the JR station, (busses run from here to many of Nikko's sights) which is the oldest in

eastern Japan, is a wooden building, built in 1915, and designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

We spent three nights in Kyoto. It is said that Kyoto is more the old Japan, certainly much more so than Tokyo, which is ultra modern (with charming pockets of "old Japan") and super-busy (with wonderful areas of serenity). I could have spent two weeks in Kyoto most happily; it is such a beautiful and fascinating city. The city of real geisha, the geisha who study for years and keep up the old Japanese culture of music, flower arranging, the tea ceremony, the art of the kimono, and so much more. Kyoto with its back lanes and wooden buildings, its tiny gardens and surprising viewpoints. Kyoto with many shrines and temples, and the Kyoto National Museum. The National Museum also is a complex and I only had time to enter one of the buildings. Of course I had to dawdle before a humungous circular pond with varicolored koi and dancing, high-spraying jets of water. Inside, I admired an exhibit of lacquer ware, as

continued on page 11

JAPAN—AN ARTFUL EXPERIENCE *continued*

well as one of ancient Japanese ceramic ware and another of kimonos. The lacquer ware was from the Heian Period (10th century) to the late Edo and Meiji Periods (19th century). Previously, I hadn't known that lacquer is made from the sap of lacquer trees, which grow only in Japan, Korea, China, and some S.E. Asian countries! Lacquer sap has strong adhesive properties; when dry, it becomes solid and the gloss of the surface stays permanently. Originally transparent, lacquer sap turns red, black, yellow, and green through chemical processing.

In Kyoto also is Kinkaku-ji, the Golden Pavilion. Again, there is a complex of handsome buildings of different sizes, in a garden-like park, with the headliner, so to speak, the Golden Pavilion, its glowing color and shape reflected perfectly in the pond in front of it. Of course the pond is a work of art, with small islands of greenery and iris scattered about. Kinkaku-ji was built as a villa retreat at the end of the 14th century by the third Ashikaga Shogun. The gold leaf on the walls is so thick the pavilion glows even in cloudy weather. I remember the Golden Pavilion especially well because of the trio of middle school girls, in neat navy blue uniforms and knee socks, who tried to practice their English on me and wanted to be photographed with me (we saw very, very, very few American tourists the whole trip, and only a couple of blondes).

Kyoto is also home to Nijo Castle—a complex created by the Shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa (yes, the same as was celebrated in Nikko). Only here was where this great Shogun lived and this is where you may find ornate interiors and the famous "nightingale floors". These floors, throughout the palaces' interiors, were cleverly constructed of polished wood in many pieces to make squeaking birdlike (nightingale) sounds which would warn the Shogun and his guards that someone was intruding. The floors did make very weird birdlike sounds. Amazing! Even when I looked at construction diagrams, it was still amazing (but then, cameras still awe me). The largest paintings of the Kano School, originally from a low-ranking samurai family, decorate the walls of the Nijo Castle. Done in the 16th century, the several motifs include life-size tigers and panthers crouching among bamboo



Toshogu Shrine, Nikko



The famous monkeys — Toshogu Shrine.

groves, pine trees, wild geese and herons, and frolicking peacocks. The backgrounds of these paintings are usually a sort of matte-finished gold paint, and the rooms are made luminous by the glowing walls. High stone walls surround the palaces' complex, and a moat, complete with graceful swans.

Kyoto is home to many shrines, temples, palaces, pagodas, and such, so let's not forget Sanjusangendo, also known as the Rengeo-in Temple. Sanjusangendo is dedicated to Kannon, the Buddhist goddess of mercy. The gilded statue of the thousand-armed Kannon, carved by Tankei in 1254 is surrounded by 1,000 smaller statues of Kannon, the work of 70 sculptors. Now this was fascinating, as at first (and even second) glance all the statues seemed remarkably alike—your stereotypical "Buddhist" face. Not so! The more I stared, the more minute differences I

could see in the figures, from the curve of their lips to the shape of the eyeballs, to what they were holding in their different arms. And it was in Sanjusangendo that I purchased a journal which was inscribed with different symbols, in deep black ink by a monk or a priest, while I waited. What a thrill to watch him hold the bamboo brush, perpendicular to the pages (which fold out, like a screen), and paint-write, while I waited. There were also nightingale floors in parts of Sanjusangendo!

Tokyo is also home to many temples and shrines, but Tokyo is huge, and has several subway lines, and so many people, buildings, stores, a huge zoo in the middle of the city, and a truly great aquarium on the 10th and 11th floors of the Sunshine City section (how they constructed this, with all the weight involved, up so high in a place known

JAPAN—AN ARTFUL EXPERIENCE *continued*



Diana and schoolgirls at the Golden Pavilion.

for earthquakes is very interesting). My husband and I spent much of our time in the Asakusa section, and so it was reminiscent of New York City in that you can have a "neighborhood" which becomes familiar to you, in the midst of millions of people and thousands of buildings. And so the Asakusa Kannon, the popular name for the Senso-ji Temple, was our focus, since we stayed in Asakusa and wandered there and ate our

dinners in that section. This is Tokyo's most sacred and spectacular temple complex. The first shrine was built there in 645! The main hall houses the original Kannon (Buddhist goddess of mercy) and worshipers come to pay their respect by first clapping to get her attention and then praying, lighting candles, for which they've paid in coins (much like in large Catholic churches). In fact, although the colors,

so very bright and glowing, and carvings, and people looked different, I was actually reminded of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, and Notre Dame, in Paris. However, at Asakusa Kannon, there are a lot of other buildings, and an incense burner (looking like a large well), and a garden, several shrines to other deities, and a sort of narrow river with Koi, as well as a five-story pagoda. The incense burner is one of the temple's focal points and is constantly surrounded by people wafting the smoke over them to keep them healthy. I didn't find out the reason until later, but I wafted a lot of smoke over me just to smell it and see if I could feel it (no, you can't feel smoke, even strong incense smoke, but I was curious).

There is much more to say, but I've spoken so long already. You might want to visit the Tokyo National Museum which has several rooms of art which condenses much of the history of Japanese art. I viewed other small museums, like the Ibaraki Museum of Modern Art (Mito City) where I saw rooms full of Japanese oil paintings in the style of the French Impressionists, Post-Impressionists, and Expressionists! This was in sharp contrast to those paintings by Van Gogh and Degas and even Gauguin who were influenced by Japanese woodblock prints. There were several fascinating exhibits of kimonos, and ceramics. Of course all this is made more pleasant because of the friendly Japanese people, the awesome scenery, and good food. What a wonderful country to see! I really need to read and learn more and go back. You'd love it!

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The New Jersey Water Color Society will hold its 62nd Annual Open Juried Exhibition at the Monmouth Museum, Brookdale College Campus, in Lincroft, NJ from September 26 to November 1, 2004 (NJ residents only) with \$6,000. in awards, and the top prize of \$1,200. They are receiving September 11 from 9 am—12 noon. For a prospectus please send a #10 SASE to Marge Chavooshian, NJWCS, 222 Morningside Drive, Trenton, NJ, 08618.

Annual Open Juried Exhibition, Montgomery Center at the 1860 House, Sept.30 - Nov. 21, 2004. Hand delivery of two dimensional art in any media September 21. Awards. \$20 members, \$30 non-members for two entries. Send SASE to Montgomery Center at the 1860 House, 124 Montgomery Road, Skillman, NJ 08558. Tel. 609-921-3272.

REPORT TO THE FIELD

The Spring 2004 Issue of "Report to the Field" is now available on the New Jersey State Council on the Arts web site at www.njartscouncil.org. The publication is located in the "What's New" section of the web site.